LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

A detailed listing of claims is presented below. Please amend currently amended claims as indicated below including substituting clean versions for pending claims with the same number. In addition, clean text versions of pending claims not being currently amended that are under examination are also presented. It is understood that any claim presented in a clean version below has not been changed relative to the immediate prior version.

1.   (Currently Amended) A method of selecting a media service provider based on static resource information, said method comprising:

identifying a type of service to be performed on an item of content before a service result is provided to a client device, wherein said item of content is identified during a session with between a said client device and a service location manager;

selecting a service provider from a plurality of service providers based on static service provider information and static network information, said selecting of a service provider further based on service session information if said service session information has been received; and

providing information for transferring said session to said service provider, wherein said service provider performs said type of service on said item of content.

2.   (Currently Amended) A system for providing content to a client device, said system comprising:

a service location manager that selects a service provider that is capable of performing a type of service on an item of content from among a plurality of service providers based on static service provider information and static network information, said item of content and type of service to be performed on said item of content is identified during a session between a client device and said service location manager, wherein said type of service is said identified before a service result is provided to said client device, said service location manager further selecting said service provider based on service session information if said service session information has been received.

3.   (Currently Amended) A computer system comprising:

a processor;

a memory device comprising computer executable instructions stored

therein for performing a method for selecting a media service provider based on static resource

information comprising:

identifying a type of service to be performed on an item of content before a service result

is provided to a client device, wherein said item of content is identified during a session with

between a said client device and a service location manager;

selecting a service provider from a plurality of service providers based on static service

provider information and static network information, said selecting of a service provider further

based on service session information if said service session information has been received; and

providing information for transferring said session to said service provider, wherein said

service provider performs said type of service on said item of content.

4.   (Currently Amended) A computer useable medium having computer useable code

embodied therein for causing a computer to perform operations comprising:

identifying a type of service to be performed on an item of content before a service result

is provided to a client device, wherein said item of content is identified during a session with

between a said client device and a service location manager;

selecting a service provider from a plurality of service providers based on static service

provider information and static network information, said selecting of a service provider further

based on service session information if said service session information has been received; and

providing information for transferring said session to said service provider, wherein said

service provider performs said type of service on said item of content.

5.   (Currently Amended) A method of selecting a media service provider for

streaming media based on static resource information, said method comprising:

identifying a type of service to be performed on an item of streaming

content <u>before a service result is provided to a client device</u>, wherein said item of streaming content is identified during a session ~~with~~ <u>between</u> a <u>said</u> client device <u>and a service location manager</u>;

selecting a service provider from a plurality of service providers based on static service provider information and static network information, said selecting of a service provider further based on service session information if said service session information has been received; and

providing information for transferring said session to said service provider, wherein said <u>type of</u> service provider performs said service on said item of streaming content.

6.   (Original) The method of Claim 5 wherein said static service provider and network information is accessible by a service location manager.

7.   (Original) The method of Claim 6 wherein said static service provider and network information comprises information concerning computational and memory resources, connectivity and expected bandwidth and latency between servers, client and content addresses, session dispatch history, network proximity and the identity of special purpose hardware.

8.   (Original) The method of Claim 7 wherein said special purpose hardware comprises encryption and compression hardware.

9.   (Original) The method of Claim 5 wherein said service session information comprises service session initiation and termination information.

10.   (Original) The method of Claim 9 wherein said initiation and termination information provides information regarding the computational resources used in previous sessions.

11.   (Original) The method of Claim 6 wherein said session dispatch history comprises information concerning content length.

12.   (Original) The method of Claim 5 wherein said streaming content is serviced and delivered to a client device as it is received.

13.   (Original) The method of Claim 12 wherein non streamed content is generated from said streaming content by said service provider.

14.   (Original) The method of Claim 13 wherein said streaming content is serviced by said service provider and delivered to a client device as a non streamed file.

15.   (Currently Amended) A system for providing streaming media content to a client device, said system comprising:

a service location manager that selects a service provider that is capable of performing a type of service on an item of content from among a plurality of service providers based on static service provider information and static network information, said item of content and type of service to be performed on said item of content is identified during a session between a client device and said service location manager, wherein said type of service is said identified before a service result is provided to said client device, said service location manager further selecting said service provider based on service session information if said service session information has been received.

16.   (Original) The system of Claim 15 wherein said static service provider and network information is accessible by said service manager.

17.   (Original) The system of Claim 16 wherein said static service provider and network information comprises information concerning computational and memory resources, connectivity and expected bandwidth and latency between servers, client and content addresses, session dispatch history, network proximity and the identity of special purpose hardware.

18.   (Original) The system of Claim 17 wherein said special purpose hardware comprises encryption and compression hardware.

19.   (Original) The system of Claim 15 wherein said service session information comprises service session initiation and termination information.

20.   (Original) The system of Claim 19 initiation and termination information provides information regarding the computational resources used in previous sessions.

21.   (Original) The system of Claim 17 wherein said dispatch history comprises information concerning content length.

22.   (Original) The system of Claim 15 wherein said streaming content is serviced and delivered to a client device as it is received.

23.   (Original) The system of Claim 22 wherein non streamed content is generated from said streaming content by said service provider.

24.   (Original) The system of Claim 19 wherein said streaming content is serviced by said service provider and delivered to a client device as a non streamed file.

25.   (Currently Amended) A computer system comprising:

a processor;

a memory device comprising computer executable instructions stored therein for performing a method for selecting a streaming media service provider based on static resource information comprising:

identifying a type of service to be performed on an item of streaming content before a service result is provided to a client device, wherein said item of streaming content is identified during a session with between a said client device and a service location manager;

selecting a service provider from a plurality of service providers based on static service provider information and static network information, said selecting of a service provider further based on service session information if said service session information has been received; and

providing information for transferring said session to said service provider, wherein said service provider performs said <u>type of</u> service on said item of streaming content.

26.   (Original) The computer system of Claim 25 wherein said static service provider and network information is accessible by a service location manager.

27.   (Original) The computer system of Claim 26 wherein said static service provider and network information comprises information concerning computational and memory resources, connectivity and expected bandwidth and latency between servers, client and content addresses, session dispatch history, network proximity and the identity of special purpose hardware.

28.   (Original) The computer system of Claim 27 wherein said special purpose hardware comprises encryption and compression hardware.

29.   (Original) The computer system of Claim 25 wherein said service session information comprises service session initiation and termination information.

30.   (Original) The computer system of Claim 29 wherein said initiation and termination information provides information regarding the computational resources used in previous sessions.

31.   (Original) The computer system of Claim 27 wherein said session dispatch history comprises information concerning content length.

32.   (Original) The computer system of Claim 29 wherein said streaming content is serviced and delivered to a client device as it is received.

33.   (Original) The computer system of Claim 32 wherein non streamed content is generated from said streaming content by said service provider.

34.   (Original) The computer system of Claim 29 wherein said
streaming content is serviced by said service provider and delivered to a client device as a non
streamed file.

35.   (Currently Amended) A computer useable medium having computer useable code
embodied therein for causing a computer to perform operations comprising:

identifying a type of service to be performed on an item of streaming
content before a service result is provided to a client device, wherein said item of streaming
content is identified during a session with between a said client device and a service location
manager;

selecting a service provider from a plurality of service providers based on static service
provider information and static network information, said selecting of a service provider further
based on service session information if said service session information has been received; and

providing information for transferring said session to said service provider, wherein said
service provider performs said type of service on said item of streaming content.

36.   (Original) The medium of Claim 35 wherein said static service provider and
network information is accessible by a service location manager.

37.   (Original) The medium of Claim 36 wherein said static service
provider and network information comprises information concerning computational and memory
resources, connectivity and expected bandwidth and latency between servers, client and content
addresses, session dispatch history, network proximity and the identity of special purpose
hardware.

38.   (Original) The medium of Claim 37 wherein said special purpose hardware
comprises encryption and compression hardware.

39.   (Original) The medium of Claim 35 wherein said service session
information comprises service session initiation and termination information.

40.   (Original) The medium of Claim 39 wherein said initiation and termination information provides information regarding the computational resources used in previous sessions.

41.   (Original) The medium of Claim 36 wherein said session dispatch history comprises information concerning content length.

42.   (Original) The medium of Claim 35 wherein said streaming content is serviced and delivered to a client device as it is received.

43.   (Original) The medium of Claim 42 wherein non streamed content is generated from said streaming content by said service provider.

44.   (Original) The medium of Claim 43 wherein said streaming content is serviced by said service provider and delivered to a client device as a non streamed file.